



**Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 213**

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**Chairperson:** Patrick J. Bourne  
**Committee:** Judiciary  
**Date of Hearing:** January 26, 2005

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 213 prohibits the use of a handheld cell phone while operating a motor vehicle unless the driver is engaged in using it for an emergency. Police officers, firefighters and emergency vehicle operators are exempt from the prohibition while they are on-duty.

Hands-free cell phone use is permitted during the operation of a motor vehicle.

A verbal warning is the only punishment for a violation until October 31, 2005 following passage of the act. On and after November 1, 2005, the violation is a traffic infraction and punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Jim Cudaback**